Entry Tax on Sugar in M.P.

1832. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that entry tax on sugar paid by Madhya Pradesh State Commodities Trading Corporation to the State Government is not being compensated from the 'Sugar Equalisation Fund' ;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to consider compensating the State Commodities Trading Corporation from Sugar Equalisation Fund for this expenditure in view of the fact that Food Corporation of India was duly paying the entry tax to the State Government and also that the entry tax is levied in lieu of the Octroi and is fully redistributed to the various local bodies by the State Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This adds to the cost of levy sugar, which, as a national policy, is supplied through Public Distribution System at a uniform price throughout the country.

(c) The matter is under consideration of Government

1833 [*Transferred to the* 28th *May*, 1990].

कृषकों को प्रशिक्षण देने की योजना

1834. **श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह** : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद् ने कृषकों को प्रशिक्षण देने हेतु कोई विशेष योजना बनाई है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में कृषि और सहकारिता विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री नितिश कुमार) : (क) जी हां ।

(ख) यह काम कृषि विज्ञान केन्द्र योजना के द्वारा किया जाता है । कृषि विज्ञान केन्द्रों की स्थापना निम्न कार्यों के लिए की गई हैं :—

(क) नवीनतम कृषि टेक्नोलाजी का प्रदर्शन और (ख) कार्य द्वारा अनुभव प्राप्त करके किसानों, कृषि महिलाओं और क्षेत्र स्तर पर कार्य करने वाले विस्तार कार्यकर्ताओं को व्यावसायिक प्रशिक्षण देना ।

Recognition of "Namshudra Community" as Scheduled Castes in W.B.

1835. SHRI NARESH C. PUGLIA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Namshudra community in West Bengal are in the category of Scheduled Castes and whether they are getting all benefits as recognised scheduled castes;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that the people belonging to this community were rehabilitated by the Central Government in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh who came as refugees from West Bengal and the erstwhile East Pakistan after partition but they were denied the status of Scheduled castes and as such deprived of the facilities admissible to persons of their status.

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether these refugees on migration from West Bengal and erstwhile East Bengal now Bangladesh to Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh have also been notified as scheduled castes if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) East Bengal (Bangla Desh) refugees who have migrated to India have been settled in different States. Those who have been settled in Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Orissa, Tripura, West Bengal, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh are entitled to get the benefits of Scheduled Castes, as the community Namshudra has been included in the list of Scheduled Castes in these States. Persons who have been settled in States like Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh under Rehabilitation Programme are not getting the benefits of Scheduled Castes, since the community Namshudra has not been included in the list of Scheduled Castes in these States.

Reaction of Prime Minister's warning on Traders/Manufacturers

1836. SHRI NARESH C. PUGLIA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the reaction of the traders/manufacturers of cement, sugar, steel etc in view of the Prime Minister's warning against the steep rise in prices of essential commodities;

(b) whether Government are contemplating to bring forward a legislation in this regard; and

(c) if so, what are the details ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL): (a) There has been an over-all favourable reaction to the Prime Minister's warning against the steep rise in prices of essential commodities. The *Cement producers* have agreed to roll back their ex-stockists price to the level of 31st March, 1990. As per reports received by Government, the prices of cement have started coming down to the desired level. In case of *sugar*, organisations such as the Bombay Sugar Merchant's Association have appreciated the action taken by the Government and have assured to cooperate with the Government in regular flow of supply of sugar in the open market. The prices of sugar have already softened in recent weeks. In the case of *Steel*, the Joint Plant Committee which is a producers' body fixes the prices of certain steel items produced by the integrated steel plants; there has recently been no steep increase in the steel prices of the main producers. *Tea* prices have been kept under check as a result of discussions held by the Monitoring Committee on Tea Prices of the Ministry of Commerce with the representatives of industry and trade, who have cooperated in the matter.

(b) and (c) There are already legislations, namely (i) The Essential Commodities Act, 1955; and (ii) The Prevention of Black-Marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980. No further legislation is therefore contemplated.

राजनीति में सक्रिय केन्द्रीय भाण्डागारण निगम के कर्मचारी

1837. **श्री आनन्द प्रकाश गौतम :** क्या खाद्य और नागरिक पूर्ति मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि केन्द्रीय भाण्डागारण निगम के कुछ कर्मचारी विभिन्न राजनैतिक दलों के पदाधिकारी भी हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसका ब्यौरा क्या है ;